

FERINTOSH COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ONLINE ON WEDNESDAY 14 APRIL 2021

MEMBERS: Karen Harcus (Vice Chair, Chair of the meeting), Alison Lowe, Alastair Macintyre, Iain McCallum, Bruce Morrison (Secretary).

ALSO PRESENT: 1 resident.

APOLOGIES: Sally Falconer, Adam Fletcher (Associate), Eilidh Richmond (Treasurer), Cllr Craig Fraser, PC John MacPherson, 1 resident.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (to take no part in relevant discussions): None.

MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES: (excluding actions carried out, carried forward and those considered later in the agenda): **IMFLDP:** strong support for community use and no more housing in two remaining sites in Culbokie; this completed the consultation and submission has been put in (copied to FCC and those that contributed).

Access rights through Findon Farm: Access Officer has agreed access rights with the landowner (signs will be put in) for pedestrians and cyclists but those rights could be forfeited if care, caution and respect are not demonstrated by users.

Road from Mulbuie School through to the A835 (resident has been updated on Participation Request approach but no action yet); Speed on roads through Ord Muir to Balvaird (Karen attended Muir of Ord CC meeting; Cllr Graham Mackenzie to follow up; proposal to put in speed monitoring after schools go back; Karen to contact resident who raised the issue).

MINUTES: Last month's minutes were approved (proposed by Alison, seconded by Alastair).

FINANCIAL REPORT: Eilidh reported BIP £500 paid back and £4,605.18 remains the figure for available funds.

PLANNING /LICENSING MATTERS (only new information included):

Objections Lodged:

20/01084 /FUL: House and camping pods, 150m NE Grianan, Braes of Dunvournie (inappropriate scale and use of crofting land; road safety concerns; THC Traffic has put in an objection (more land required for visual splays)).

20/02232/FUL: Erection of two houses, 46m SW Drummondreach Steading, Alcaig (not brownfield).

20/02674/PIP: House, 30m South of Dalshian, Alcaig: Object (sight lines).

20/02989/FUL: Two agricultural buildings, 105m NE of Northwood, Urquhart, Alcaig: Object.

20/02676/FUL: Permanent residential caravan, 105m NE of Northwood, Urquhart, Alcaig: Object. Application has now been withdrawn and therefore closed. Given this application was part of the business case, FCC agreed to request a new business case be presented to THC's consultant for a refreshed view.

20/02677/FUL: Farmhouse, Urquhart Farm, Alcaig: Object. Nine new documents have been submitted by the applicant involving a new traffic layout, a drainage statement (not suitable for soakaway of rain water) and the three sheds are now for storage and not for cattle. (Action: Iain to ask whether the sheds are for agricultural or industrial storage).

20/04224/PIP: House, 50m NE of Grianan, Brae of Kinkell: Object. New plans and access arrangements have been submitted.

Comments lodged:

20/01453 /FUL: Retrospective application for woodworking business, Old Grain Store, Culbokie (restrict noise to working hours on Monday to Saturday).

20/04524/FUL: House 215m East of Upper Braefindon, Culbokie: Unacceptable breach of Hinterland policy (confirmation of email discussion and decision by FCC in support of Planners' judgement)

New Applications:

21/00022/FUL: Extension, Achonachie, 7 Cocked Hat Wood, Culbokie: Granted

Two applications have come in under the /DOM designation. Iain to find out how these are processed and whether FCC has the option to comment.

21/01173/PIP: Erect house, 75m NE of Brackla Wood, Upper Braefindon: No comment

21/01214/FUL: 67m to tip wind turbine, 2300m NW of Fannyfield House, Swordale, Evanton: Object (resident response was 14 wishing to object and 8 wishing to support. Iain to draft a response and circulate to FCC).

Other Planning Matters:

Glascairn Development: Developer's contributions (Action: Bruce, no THC response as yet); Community Liaison Group to be reactivated (Action: Iain).

Progress report of all outstanding cases from Planning Department (Action: Iain); Work programme for the Eight Acres development not yet available (Action: Bruce).

ACTIVE PROJECTS: (Updates below on all FCC's linkages but only if new information).

Community Services (requesting greater involvement in local decision making through a Participation Request): No word on reinvolvement with Participation Request delayed due to lockdown but THC's Officer is keen on the partnership approach.

Alastair has written to THC (Laura MacAllister) re. clarification on weight restrictions on all FCC roads but no reply as yet; sign for Newhall above Findon is in a dangerous position. FCC to assemble a priority list in advance of the Participation Request meeting (Action: All).

Ferintosh Community Bus (FCB): New delay to the start from Monday 19 April to Tuesday 4 May in order to complete all the planning (routes, timetables, leaflets, administration). Bruce has been speaking with current bus users (esp. Easter Kinkell area) who are very willing to be flexible in their future use and habits in order to support a service that could be useful to more residents. Bruce will be travelling on some of the bus journeys over the next few weeks in order to speak with current users.

Email list: Decrease of 7 to 670. (Action: Alastair and Karen to approach those residents known to them).

Black Isle Community Councils (BICC): Received draft proposals for the Terms of Reference under which this group will meet. The discussion revealed some disquiet about appearing to give away control of FCC's own actions on behalf of residents and on investing considerable time into a group that may have limited benefit to FCC and its residents. Agreed to suggest to BICC to meet three times in the next 12 months to share information, knowledge and objectives before then deciding whether to put in place greater formality.

BICC was asked to attend (Bruce represented BICC) a meeting with Police Scotland (PS) organised by Cllr Adam to seek support for a rapid introduction of an emergency extension of the 50mph zone on the A9 out of Inverness to beyond the Munloch Junction ahead of the impending tourism season. PS agreed to quickly meet up with Transport Scotland (TS) to seek views and evidence around all the possible options for action before coming back with its conclusion. BICC is sending in a letter to TS ahead of that meeting on behalf of all

Black Isle residents making the case for an increased 50mph zone (FCC agreed to the proposed text from Cllr Adam).

REPORTS (from public bodies and local organisations):

Police Scotland: Written report was received with the following three incidents: on 17/3/21, outside Ferintosh primary school, 2 persons were issued with a fixed penalty after breaching coronavirus restrictions; on 23/3/21, on A832 at Newton, a driver was issued with a fixed penalty in relation to speeding; on 2/4 /21, on A835 at Conon Bridge, a driver was arrested for failing drug wipe.

Resident has again reported fast driving along the Balloan /Alcaig road. (Action: Alastair, having received no reply from PC John MacPherson previously will try again).

PS has initiated a meeting (Karen to attend on Friday) to seek views to help PS's preparation for the visitor season. Residents were consulted and have provided valuable views and experiences.

Ferintosh Volunteers (FV): A resident has generously offered help to keep updated FCC's list of Activities, Businesses and Services that appears on the website. A team from FV spent a couple of hours clearing the area behind Findon Hall to bring that special area back into use for youngsters and others. Parents are now being consulted about what further work would be helpful and a further clear up is planned for tomorrow. FV is also organising another Litter Pick (Easter Blitz) at 11.30am on Saturday 24 April (if you wish to help, please contact 07516 261429 a few days in advance).

CORRESPONDENCE and REQUESTS (please contact FCC on ferintoshcc30@gmail.com if you would like any further information on these items):

Organisations: **HTSI:** Scams awareness event in March; **Black Isle Partnership (BIP):** Initial ideas for a BI Good Food Initiative; **THC:** daily briefing from SG /THC; **Newsletters** from Triage, HTSI, Port of Cromarty Firth, HSCN, Scottish Community Councils, BIP; **THC:** extension of IMFLDP consultation period until end of April; **Home Start East Highland:** has been awarded funding to maintain and enhance support for families throughout the perinatal period; **Transport Scotland:** major update report has been received on the study for the A9 North Kessock to Tore section making the case now for an evaluation of all options; **Scottish Rural Action:** feedback that over 800 people took part in the Virtual Scottish Rural Parliament recently and collated reports will come later. Bruce attended one session on the future of Community Councils which was very helpful in understanding the options and a second session on Community Transport which didn't provide any direct help to FCC's Ferintosh Community Bus service; **HTSI:** introducing charges for its eLearning Platform; **NHS /HTSI:** Consultation to communities for views on priority areas for health and wellbeing (resident is attending and will feedback whilst two other residents highlighted the issues of lack of local facilities, mental health, drugs/alcohol and the obesity crisis); **Calor:** closing date postponed until early May for applications to Rural Community Fund; **BI Tourism Team:** virtual Spring networking event on 20th April.

Residents: has concern about **litter on the A9**; has provided useful links for updates on **scams and frauds** (<https://www.actionfraudalert.co.uk/>; <https://www.tsscot.co.uk/scamshare/>) (Internet Safety: A Guide for Parents and Carers); has raised the **commitments of Parklands** (Eilean Dubh Care Home) to wider community, especially about respite care (FCC to take up with BICC; Karen has contacted BI Cares for more information); resident has generously offered to **use road planings to resurface the football club car parks** and THC is now engaging to help organise; has informed FCC about a one stop shop for **Priority Services** (PSR Scotland, an innovative partnership to inform customers of the free support available when they need it most).

INTERACTION WITH RESIDENTS: None

AOCB: Website: offer to update at a cost to be turned down. Karen to make a proposal to FCC on her ongoing Zoom costs.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING (incl. AGM): Wednesday 12 May online at 7pm.

Contact details for comments; to join the email list; to receive minutes electronically:

Bruce Morrison, Secretary, 01349 877127; ferintoshcc30@gmail.com, <http://ferintoshcc.co.uk>;
<http://fb.me/Ferintosh>